

“Burden” Poem Evaluation Guide

Writing Rubric	Advanced (4) A poem in this category is outstanding and demonstrates clear and consistent mastery although it may have a few minor errors.	Proficient (3) A poem in this category demonstrates competency and adequate mastery although it may have lapses in quality.	Partially Proficient (2) A poem in this category is nearing competency and demonstrates developing mastery.	Unsatisfactory (1) A poem in this category is fundamentally lacking, demonstrates very little or no mastery, and is severely flawed in one or more of the following areas:
Ideas/Content x 8	-The main idea is clear and focused. The content of this poem is clearly related to the topic. This poem engages the reader continuously. -The prompt is clearly and creatively addressed.	-The main idea is narrow and manageable. The content of this poem relates to the topic well. This poem engages the reader. -The prompt is clearly addressed.	-The main idea is fairly broad but has some direction. The content of this poem relates to the topic only minimally. -The prompt is loosely addressed.	-The main idea is vague and unclear. The content of this poem does not relate to the topic. -The prompt is not addressed.
Organization x 7	-The poem is organized logically and effectively. - Thoughtful transitions clearly show how ideas connect	-The poem is organized logically. -Common transitions are logically sequenced and flow smoothly.	-The poem is loosely organized. -Sporadic transitions are evident.	-The poem lacks organization. -Transitions are illogically sequenced or missing entirely.
Conventions x 5	-Grammar, conventions, and usage add to clarity and style. -Stanzas and lines are correctly implemented. -There are seven (7) stanzas of eight (8) lines each.	-Grammar, conventions, and usage are mostly correct. -Stanzas and lines are correctly implemented most of the time. -There are seven (7) stanzas of four (4) lines each.	-Grammar, conventions, and usage errors are evident and distracting. -Stanzas and lines are inconsistently implemented. -There are fewer than seven (7) stanzas of four (4) lines each.	-Grammar, conventions, and usage consistently detract from readability. -Stanzas and lines are incorrectly implemented. -There are fewer than four (4) stanzas of four (4) lines each.
Style x 7	-Voice and tone are lively, compelling, and adeptly suited to topic, purpose, and audience. -Word choice is precise and memorable. Language use is skillful. -Writing is well-crafted with strong and varied structures. -Sensory details and figurative language create vivid images that contribute significantly to the meaning of the poem; sound devices such as alliteration or onomatopoeia are used effectively and contribute to the meaning of the poem. -Skillfully uses an organized poetic structure with a controlled rhyme scheme that mimics “The White Man’s Burden”	-Voice and tone are appropriate for topic, purpose, and audience. -Word choice is accurate, active, and clear. Language use is functional. -Writing is natural and often varied in sentence structure. - Sensory details and figurative language contribute to the meaning of the poem; sound devices such as alliteration or onomatopoeia also add to the meaning of the poem. -Effectively uses an organized poetic structure with a controlled rhyme scheme that mimics “The White Man’s Burden”	-Voice or tone is generic, stilted, or inconsistent for the topic, purpose, and audience. -Word choice is at times inaccurate, bland, or vague. Language use is inaccurate or unclear. -Writing is mechanical and lacks structural variety. - Sensory details and figurative language may be overused, unused, or inappropriate to the subject; sound devices such as alliteration or onomatopoeia may be overused or underused or fail to contribute to the meaning of the poem. -Attempts to use an organized poetic structure with a controlled rhyme scheme that mimics “The White Man’s Burden”	-Voice or tone is indifferent or inappropriate for the topic, purpose, and audience. -Word choice is consistently inaccurate, bland, or vague. Language use is inappropriate. -Writing is choppy, causing the reader to pause and reread in order to understand it. -There is no use of—or consistently confusing or inappropriate use of—sensory details or figurative language or sound devices. -Little or no attempt to use an organized poetic structure with a controlled rhyme scheme that mimics “The White Man’s Burden”

Total summative points earned ____/100